

RESOURCES & CONTACT INFORMATION

There are recycling programs for:

♦Used tires♦Oil Filters♦Antifreeze♦
Cleaning solutions♦Water-based paints♦
Hydraulic and transmission fluids♦Metal
scraps♦Paper and cardboard Container♦
glass, aluminum, and tin



For more information on recycling & waste management, visit: www.RecycleTorrance.org



Heal the Bay

To learn more about the impact of storm water pollution on the health of our local oceans, or for beach clean up volunteer events, please visit: www.healthebay.org

HAZARDOUS WASTE INFORMATION

Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works,
Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste Disposal
1-888-CleanLA (1-888-253-2652) or log on to
www.888CleanLA.com

For more information on storage/disposal of hazardous waste call:

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Duty Officer (818) 551-2830 or log on to www.dtsc.ca.gov

SPILL RESPONSE

**City of Torrance Fire Department
Hazardous Materials Program**
(310) 618-2973 (M-F 7:30am-5:30pm)
After hours: 310-781-7640 (Dispatch)

To report illegal discharges or dumping to the storm drain system anywhere in Los Angeles County at any time, call: 1-888-CleanLA (1-888-253-2652)

TO REPORT A CLOGGED STORM

To report a clogged storm drain inlet or catch basin anywhere in Los Angeles County at anytime, call:
Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works
1-800-675-HELP or (626) 458-4357

City of Torrance
Public Works Dept.
Mon-Thurs 7am-5pm

This brochure is one of a series of brochures describing storm drain protection measures.

Other brochures include:

**AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE & CAR CARE
LANDSCAPING, GARDENING & PEST CONTROL
PAINTING**

**SWIMMING POOL CLEANING & CARE
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION
FRESH CONCRETE & MORTAR APPLICATION**

For more information about storm drain protection or additional brochures, call the



**CITY OF TORRANCE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT
(310) 618-5990**

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE CITY OF TORRANCE
NPDES PROGRAM PLEASE VISIT :
WWW.TORRANCECA.GOV/9585.HTM

Visit the County of Los Angeles Clean LA website for information on programs, events and resources to keeping the County clean & sustainable:

www.888CleanLA.com



Printed on recycled paper.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)



A reference guide to Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Safe Environmental Habits and Practices for:

**Homeowners/Renters
Pet Owners
Home Builders**



Storm Water Pollution

The City of Torrance has two drainage systems – the sewers and the storm drains. Most runoff from the streets of Torrance discharges directly to the Pacific Ocean via the storm drain system. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean. During storms in urban areas, rainwater may mix with pollutants in industrial and household runoff, creating storm water pollution.

Storm Water Pollution Impacts Include:

- Financial consequences
- Health risks
- Beach closures
- Harm to marine life
- Neighborhood flooding
- Lowers property values



What is “NPDES”

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NPDES is a federal mandate that prohibits pollutants from entering the storm drain system. It was created to protect oceans and keep them free of pollutants. The City of Los Angeles, through the Stormwater Program, is legally bound to implement the mandates of a 1987 amendment to the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The NPDES permit was first issued to the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles and the other eighty three incorporated cities within the County of Los Angeles by the Regional Water Quality Control Board in 1990. The City of Torrance adopted the NPDES Permit into the Torrance Municipal Code in 1998.



Best Management Practices

SWIMMING POOLS

Pool & Spa water maintenance requires strong chemicals that may be poisonous and toxic. The City requires the pool & spa water be drained into a dry well, vegetated area, or sanitary sewer. Water from swimming pools, spas and decorative fountains must be dechlorinated or debrominated prior to draining. Some methods are:



Allowing the pool water to sit in the pool without adding chlorine, chlorine levels will drop naturally over several days.

Add a dechlorinating agent to the pool.

Using a pool test kit, check the residual chlorine level to ensure it is at zero prior to draining.

LANDSCAPE, GARDENING & PEST CONTROL

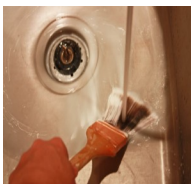
Landscaping & Garden maintenance activities can be major contributors to ocean pollution. Soils, yard waste, over-watering & gardening chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds its way through streets, gutters and storm drains before entering the ocean. Poorly functioning sprinklers and overwatering not only waste water, but also increase the number of pollutants flowing into the storm drains.



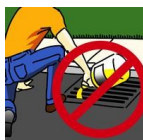
Sweep- don't hose down sidewalks

PAINT CLEANUP

Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, or storm drain. For water-based paints, paint out brushes as much as possible and rinse in the sink. For oil-based paints, paint out brushes as much as possible. Clean with thinner and then, filter and reuse thinner or solvent.



Dumping toxics into the street, gutter or storm drain is illegal. Reuse leftover paints for touch up or take to a S.A.F.E. Collection Center



Storm Water Pollution Prevention– It's Up To You!



Don't Litter

Everything dropped, tossed, spilled or discarded onto streets and gutters will eventually make its way into the storm drain system--and out to the ocean!

Report Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping of trash, paint products, motor oil and other chemicals into storm drains is against the law!



Pick up After Your Pets

Animal waste that runs off of lawns and sidewalks sends harmful bacteria into the storm drain system and out into the ocean, creating problems for swimmers and fish.

Take your Hazardous Waste Materials to a S.A.F.E. Center



Residential Special Materials are typical household products that should not be disposed of by merely throwing in the trash. These items include unused or leftover paint, pesticides, cleaners and other chemicals.

Measuring Success

